## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01057 230838Z ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 OES-07 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /050 W

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R 230518Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6968

CONFIDENTIAL DAMASCUS 1057

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MILI TPHY

SUBJ: SYRIAN MAPPING CAPABILITIES

REF: A) DAO DAMASCUS MSG 035 DTG 270740Z JAN 78; B) DIA MSG 3702 DTG 031621Z FEB 78; C) DMA MSG DTG 151944Z FEB 78

- 1. I WISH ADD MY PERSONAL ENDORSEMENT TO PROPOSAL THAT WE RESPOND FAVORABLY TO SYRIAN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING ITS MAPPING CAPABILITIES. AN NOTED REF B, DIA ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORTED DATT'S ORIGINAL REQUEST TO PROVIDE CARTOGRAPHIC ASSISTANCE FOR SYRIAN MILITARY OFFICE OPERATING GOVERNMENT-WIDE MAP SUPPORT AGENCE. DEFENSE MAPPING (DMA) CONCURRED BUT ADVISED THAT STATE (NEA/ARN) HAD ADVISED AGAINST SUCH ASSISTANCE IN VIEW OF CURRENT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION (REF C). DMA MESSAGE LISTED SOME POSITIVE ADVANTAGES TO USG MAPPING PROGRAM SHOULD COOPERATION WITH SARG OCCUR.
- 2. THE ASSISTANCE DATT PROPOSED WAS TO BE LOW PROFILE, LOW COST WITH POTENTIALLY HIGH YIELD IN ACCESS TO SYRIAN MILITARY. IT PRESENTED, IN MY OPINION, AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO MAKE POINTS IN AREA OF THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HERETOFORE CLOSED TO US.
- 3. PLEASE ADVISE WHAT PROBLEMS A FAVORABLE RESPONSE WOULD CONFIDENTIAL.

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ENGENDER FOR USG. WOULD APPRECIATE RECONSIDERATION OF THIS OPPORTUNITY SINCE WISH GIVE SYRIANS A PROMPT ANSWER.

MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

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